Meeting Date and Time: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 12:30PM - 1:30PM

**Meeting Location:** This meeting was via Microsoft Teams

**Members Present:** Jon Murad, Steve Coote, John Federico, Justin Stedman, Wilda White, Roger Marcoux **Members Absent:** Tom Mozzer **Others in Attendance:** Lindsay Thivierge, Chris Brickell, Ken Hawkins

Call to Order 12:34 PM

Addition to agenda: Add sending recommendations to the Council for the MMPI and the Written Entrance.

## Approval of prior meeting minutes

Motion to accept meeting minutes from 5/3/22, second Wilda White.

**Academy physical fitness** – Are the PT standards for entry into the Academy insufficient?

*Topics Discussed:* If we change the standard what do we change it to and how do we make this change. If we are incorporating the run again is that bringing Cooper standards back in to the process when they are no longer supported? How defensible is our information if we changed the initial recommendation? What do current pass rates look like, and what would it look like if we changed the requirement and increased the percentage?

The Academy gives recruits what they need to pass and they spend a lot of time remediating. Currently, candidates row to meet the standard, no more. Until they are given an open-ended test, the Academy may not get accurate data on where candidates begin and end as far as capability.

The current class of recruits was given their final test on the rower. They were given the test at the 50th percent and the majority were at or close to the 70th percentile. This validates the PT program and gets them at a higher standard during the program. That is only a test of the row not the overall rounded PT for exit standards and for some endurance exercises such as Use of Force.

There was some concern that the entrance standard we set is not the entrance test that was recommended initially by Texas.

When discussing the requirements that incorporate a run some feel that running is unfair and that it causes us to lose people that could otherwise be good candidates that can make it through the Academy. On the other side of it, runs you can practice without any equipment unlike the rower or a JST.

If Cooper is dead and it is an element of Cooper, then we have to look at different ways of teaching fitness and how we test them in the academy to match our entry standard.

The program is defensible but is it working. How we are measuring beginning and end so that agencies get what they looking for when they pass.

Next agenda item – invite back Texas DPS

**General Discussion**: John Federico – Retiring will need a new VSEA member for the Council and a new member for the group.

Motion to adjourn